



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**
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February 10, 2026

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley
Chair, House Committee on State Government and Elections
State House
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2026 H-7577- AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES
- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES**

Dear Chair Shanley:

The Division of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") writes to express concern with and also respectfully requests an amendment to House Bill 7577, An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles-Registration of Vehicles, to provide that it shall become effective six (6) months after passage.

The proposed bill would allow any city, town, state and/or agency of a municipality or state to report unpaid fines of two hundred dollars (\$200) or more to the DMV as grounds for refusal of registration.

The concern of the DMV is that, as currently drafted, it is unclear whether "state" in the proposed bill refers only to the State of Rhode Island or if other states would be allowed to report fines as well. It is also unclear whether "agency of a municipality or state" would extend to parking and tolling companies working on behalf of one of those governmental units.

Additionally, most, if not all, legislative changes and new laws require the DMV to make significant modifications to its computer system's code and operating system, as well as adjust business processes. Providing the DMV with ample time to implement legislatively mandated changes will minimize risks to the system and allow for the successful completion of all development necessary to effectuate the intent of the legislature. As such, the DMV respectfully requests an amendment to the proposed bill that would make the bill effective six (6) months after passage.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Walter R. Craddock, Esq.
Administrator

Cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government
and Elections
The Honorable Brandon T. Voas
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Thomas A. Verdi, Director, Department of Revenue